REMARKS

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 11, 14, 15, 19, 20, 23, and 24

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 11, 14, 15, 19, 20, 23, and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 5,732,282 by Provino et al. in view of U.S. Patent Number 6,064,368 by Kang. Applicant respectfully submits that the combination does not teach each and every element of the invention as claimed in claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 11, 14, 15, 19, 20, 23, and 24 and is furthermore improperly motivated.

Independent claims 1, 5, and 9 include the limitation, or a limitation similar thereto, of:

> the processor executing the BIOS routine by receiving an initial request for said received information from the second computing system unit.

Provino and Kang, either individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest this limitation.

Provino discloses a virtual device driver registry for providing virtual device driver call information to a program operating in a computer system in response to a call information request. The registry maintains a registration database including entries containing driver identifiers and call information. The registry establishes the entries in the registration database in response to receipt of virtual device driver registration requests from the virtual device drivers as they are initialized. The registry responds to a call information request from the program to provide call information for the registered virtual device drivers.

Kang discloses a user interface device for a PC system. The device converts user interface data transmitted from an external input device to data that can be recognized by a PC system. The device uses an interface controller connected between the external input device and a system having a system BIOS program. The device outputs a system management interrupt to the system when receiving data from the remote controller

receiver and outputs a remote controller key code to the system in accordance with a first and a second transmission commands supplied from the system.

Provino and Kang, either individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest the processor executing the BIOS routine by providing to the second computing system unit in response to said received request at least one of said received information stored in said memory before the receipt of said request if any is stored as claimed. The Examiner has equated this limitation to Provino's disclosure that after registering with the registry, the virtual device drivers are available for call by calling programs. (Office Action, page 2, ¶ 3). However, calling the virtual device drivers is not equivalent to providing received information stored in memory before the receipt on initial request as claimed. Kang's user interface device also does not teach this limitation.

Furthermore, the combination of Provino and Kang is improperly motivated. A person of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to look to a user interface device for a PC system to improve a virtual device driver registry. The Examiner states that it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Provino and Kang because Kang's BIOS routine would provide the BIOS for controlling the input data from external input device. However, the Examiner cites no suggestion in either reference that actually suggests the combination of these two references. Provino makes no suggestion that the BIOS routine be used for receiving and transmitting information comprising at least one of error information, status information, and configuration information. Kang makes no suggestion that the disclosed key code data could be used in a virtual device driver registry.

Accordingly, the combination cannot be interpreted to disclose the claimed element, as claimed in independent claims 1, 10 and 19. Therefore, the combination cannot render obvious Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 1, 10 and 19. Each of the dependent claims 2, 5, 6, 11, 14, 15, 20, 23, and 24 depend from one of foregoing independent claims, and therefore include the distinguishing claim limitations of the respective independent claim. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the combination.

Claims 3, 4, 12, 13, 21, 22

Claims 3, 4, 12, 13, 21, 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Provino in view of Kang and further in view of PI (Persistor CF1 User's Manual BIOS Management Calls). Applicant respectfully submits that the combination does not teach each and every element of the invention as claimed in claims 3, 4, 12, 13, 21, 22.

PI discloses BIOS management calls. P1 does not teach or suggest the processor executing the BIOS routine by providing to the second computing system unit in response to said received request at least one of said received information stored in said memory before the receipt of said request if any is stored as claimed in claims 1, 10 and 19.

Thus, as none of Provino, Kang, or P1 teaches each and every limitation of claims 1, 10 and 19, the combination cannot render obvious Applicant's invention as claimed in claims, which depend from claims 1, 10 and 19. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the combination.

Claims 7-9, 16-18, 25-27

Claims 7-9, 16-18, 25-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Provino et al. in view of Kang and further in view of OSR (Using the NT Registery for Driver Install). Applicant respectfully submits that the combination does not teach each and every element of the invention as claimed in claims 17-9, 16-18, 25-27.

OSR discloses an NT device driver writer. OSR does not teach or suggest the processor executing the BIOS routine by providing to the second computing system unit in response to said received request at least one of said received information stored in said memory before the receipt of said request if any is stored as claimed in claims 1, 10 and 19.

Thus, as none of Provino, Kang, or OSR teaches each and every limitation of claims 1, 10 and 19, the combination cannot render obvious Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 7-9, 16-18, 25-27, which depend from claims 1, 10 and 19.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the combination.

If the Examiner determines the prompt allowance of these claims could be facilitated by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact John P. Ward at the number listed below.
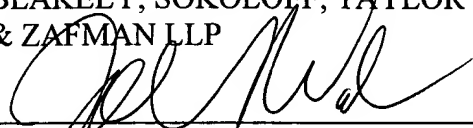
SUMMARY

Claims 1-27 are currently pending. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims.

Deposit Account Authorization

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Applicant hereby requests such extension.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR
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Dated: April 6, 2005

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